

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Development Economics
Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>)	BA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> BSc <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSc <input type="checkbox"/> Other ... <input type="checkbox"/>
Mode of delivery	Distance-learning <input type="checkbox"/> On-campus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Professional body accreditation (<i>if applicable</i>)	n/a
Academic year this specification was created	2017/18 for 2018/19 onwards
Dates of any subsequent amendments	

II. Programme Aims: What will the programme allow you to achieve?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A grounding in economic theory and quantitative techniques 2. A thorough understanding of problems with economic development and underdevelopment 3. An introduction to regionally-specific economic issues in Asia and Africa from world experts 4. The opportunity to explore heterodox economic theories with world experts 5. The ability to combine economics with introductions to other disciplines taught in SOAS
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III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A good understanding of modern economic theory. 2. An understanding of quantitative techniques with the possibility to gain an introduction to econometrics, depending on optional module choices. 3. Advanced training in important branches of theoretical and applied economics and economic policy debate (depending on optional module choices) 4. A strong understanding of the special problems of developing countries of Asia and Africa, with students extending their knowledge and understanding of the problems of economic development through a core development economics module in year 2 and final year modules focussing on an important region of Asia or Africa (e.g. China or Sub-Saharan Africa). 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The understanding of modern economic theory is gained through compulsory modules in economic analysis (micro- and macroeconomics). • The grounding in quantitative techniques is gained from compulsory quantitative methods modules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of all of these will be through exams and assessed coursework in each module, as well as an independent study project.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in applied economics is gained through second and third year optional modules. • The appreciation of the special problems of developing countries in Asia and Africa is gained from core modules in years 1 and 2 with a focus on development countries and development economics, as well as at least one module and a maximum of three regionally specialised modules development modules in year 3. 	
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Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An appreciation of both orthodox and heterodox economic theories, especially as they relate to controversies in economic growth and development. 2. The ability to use arguments from different schools of economic analysis to study important topics in applied economic, especially in the field of economic development. 3. The ability to develop coherent and logical economic arguments. 4. An understanding of the uses and misuses of quantitative analysis in economic research, especially as it relates to developing economies. 5. The ability to take a global, rather than narrowly US- or Euro-centric, approach to the analysis of key economic issues. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appreciation of orthodox and heterodox economic theory, and the ability to use different schools of economic argument, and the ability to develop coherent and logical economic argument are all gained as students progress from elementary modules to advanced modules and refine their intellectual understanding of the development of modern economic analysis and development economics. Students are encouraged to explore different schools of thought and how these schools relate to one another. Students are also encouraged to take a critical approach to the work of international development agencies and to the policy advice they offer. • The introductory understanding of the uses and misuses of quantitative analysis is gained by students taking compulsory quantitative methods modules. • The ability to take a global approach is gained by the opportunity for students to take introductory and more advanced core modules with a focus on global and development economics in years 1 and 2, followed by regionally focussed economic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of all of these will be through exams and assessed coursework in each module, as well as an independent study project.

development modules in year 3, as well as from lecturers' own research focuses.	
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Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to present coherent economic arguments orally and in writing. 2. The ability to locate economic literature quickly from both monographs and journals, making full use of the internet. 3. Familiarity with important international publications and data sources including World Bank, IMF, OECD and UN databases. 4. The ability to use standard computer packages to analyse data and present the results of such analysis in tabular and graphical form. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to present coherent economic arguments orally and in writing is gained from assistance to students to make clear and concise oral presentations in tutorials, as well as detailed feedback on written work • The ability to locate economic literature and familiarity with international publications/data sources is gained academics encouraging students to read widely and make full use of the SOAS and other University of London libraries rather than simply relying on set texts and key readings. Students are also offered library training in the SOAS library (a national research library). • The ability to use standard computer packages to analyse data is gained through tutor assistance to students, including tutorials in computer labs for some modules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of all of these will be through exams and assessed coursework in each module, as well as an independent study project.

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to analyse and evaluate competing theoretical claims and their policy implications. 2. The ability to communicate with clarity and precision orally and in writing. 3. The ability to locate and synthesize relevant information from a wide variety of sources. 4. The skills necessary for independent research. 5. Effective time management and self-organisation. 6. The ability to test their ideas in discussion. 7. Graphical, representational skills, and numeracy. 8. Ability to summarise and interpret statistical information, data and tables. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the validity of arguments and make judgements on complex situations, in particular in essays and presentations. • Write and speak with clarity and concision by setting clear guidelines and giving detailed feedback to essays and presentations from year 1 onward. • Use a variety of sources as research materials in their essays, oral presentations. • Students can choose to do an independent study project allowing students to write on quite original topics using materials that no one has used before. • Work to deadlines, with clear deadlines for essays and penalty for late submission. • Develop self-reflexiveness through classroom discussion, feedback on essays and presentations, and module assessment. • Acquisition of graphical, representational skills, and numeracy through weekly quantitative modules. • Acquisition of ability to summarise and interpret statistical information, data and tables through quantitative modules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of all of these will be through exams and assessed coursework in each module, as well as an independent study project.
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BSc Development Economics

A	For students WITH A-level or equivalent in Maths	30 15340003 Introduction to Economic Analysis level 4 core module	+	30 153400121 Quantitative Methods for Economists level 4 core module	+	30 153400102 Comparative Growth and Development level 4 core module	+	30 open option optional module	+	0 Essay Writing Workshop - Undergraduate Economics compulsory module
	Year 1									
B	For students WITHOUT A-level or equivalent in Maths	30 15340003 Introduction to Economic Analysis level 4 core module	+	30 153400120 Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Economists level 4 core module	+	30 153400102 Comparative Growth and Development level 4 core module	+	30 open option optional module	+	0 Essay Writing Workshop - Undergraduate Economics compulsory module
	Year 2									
A	For students WITH A-level or equivalent in Maths	30 153400130 Microeconomic Analysis level 5 core module	+	30 153400123 Macroeconomic Analysis level 5 core module	+	30 153400124 Issues in Development Economics level 5 core module	+	30 from list A guided option*	OR	30 open option
	Year 2									
B	For students WITHOUT A-level or equivalent in Maths	30 153400130 Microeconomic Analysis level 5 core module	+	30 153400123 Macroeconomic Analysis level 5 core module	+	30 153400124 Issues in Development Economics level 6 core module	+	30 153400121 Quantitative Methods for Economists level 4 core module		
	Year 2									
A & B	credits	15	+	105						
	module title	153400141	OR	75	+	30				
Year 3	Global Economic Policy	level 6	core module	from list B	guided option*	open option	open option			

List of modules (subject to availability)

List A

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits	Prerequisites
4	153400121	Quantitative Methods for Economists	30	Only if not taken in Y1. Pre-requisite: 153400120 Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Economists
5	153400103	Econometrics	30	Pre-requisite: 153400121 Quantitative Methods for Economists
5	153400100	Banking and Finance	30	Pre-requisite: 153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis
5	153400106	International Economics	30	Pre-requisite: 153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis

List B

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits	Prerequisites
4	153400121	Quantitative Methods for Economists	30	Only if not taken in Y1 or Y2. Pre-requisite: 153400120
5	153400103	Econometrics	30	Only if not taken in Y2. Pre-requisite: 153400121
5	153400100	Banking and Finance	30	If not already taken in Year 2. Pre-requisite: 153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis
5	153400106	International Economics	30	If not already taken in Year 2. Pre-requisite: 153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis
6	153400138	Applied Econometrics for Time-Series Data Analysis	15	Pre-requisite: 153400103 Econometrics
6	153400137	Applied Econometrics for Cross-section Data Analyses	15	Pre-requisite: 153400103 Econometrics
6	153400126	Advanced Mathematical Methods	30	Pre-requisite: 153400121 Quantitative Methods for Economists
6	153400136	The Economics of the Environment	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153401001	Gender Economics	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400129	Labour Economics	30	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400135	History of Economic Thought and Methods	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153401007	Limits to Growth?	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400114	Independent Study Project in Economics	30	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Students must take AT LEAST 30 CREDITS and can take NO MORE THAN A TOTAL OF 90 CREDITS in the following regional economic development modules				
6	153400140	Economic development of Africa: microeconomic approaches	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400139	Economic development of Africa: macroeconomic approaches	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400142	Political Economy of Development and Change in the Middle East	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400145	Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary Middle East	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400031	Economic Development of the Modern Middle East	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400134	Economic Development of Japan	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153401006	Economic Development of South East Asia	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400143	Political Economy of Development and Change in South Asia	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400144	Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary South Asia	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153401004	China's Economic Transformation	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153401003	China and World Development	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
6	153400133	Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region	15	Pre-requisite: EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)

Prerequisites

In order to take....	Students should also have taken or provide evidence of equivalence to course convenors for:
Macroeconomic Analysis	30
Microeconomic Analysis	Introduction to Economic Analysis
Issues in Economic Development	Introduction to Economic Analysis
International Economics	Introduction to Economic Analysis and/or Comparative Growth in Asia and Africa
Banking and Finance	Introduction to Economic Analysis
The Economics of the Environment	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Global Economic Policy	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Gender Economics	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Labour Economics	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Economic development of Africa: microeconomic approaches	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Economic development of Africa: macroeconomic approaches	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
China's Economic Transformation	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
China and World Development	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Political Economy of Development and Change in the Middle East	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary Middle East	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Economic Development of Japan	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Economic Development of Southeast Asia	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
History of Economic Thought and Methods	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Political Economy of Development and Change in South Asia	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary South Asia	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
History of Economic Thought and Methods	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Limits to Growth?	EITHER Macroeconomic Analysis (153400123) OR Microeconomic Analysis (153400130) OR Issues in Development Economics (153400124)
Independent Study Project in Economics	Macroeconomic Analysis and/or Microeconomic Analysis. An average mark of 65% or more in Year 2 is required.